United Nations E/CN.6/2006/NGO/13

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 January 2006

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Fiftieth session
27 February-10 March 2006
Item 3 (c) (i) and (ii) of the provisional agenda*
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives:

Enhanced participation of women in development: an enabling environment for achieving gender equality and the advancement of women, taking into account, inter alia, the fields of education, health and work

Equal participation of women and men in decision-making processes at all levels

Statement submitted by International Union of Psychological Science, SOS Kinderdorf International, International Federation for Home Economics, International Council of Psychologists, Center for Migration Studies of New York, Child Welfare League of America, National Council on Family Relations, World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations and Associated Country Women of the World, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996.

* E/CN.6/2006/1.

06-21858 (E) 060206

Statement

We commend the Commission on the Status of Women for focusing the 2006 Session on women's achievement of gender equality through an enabling environment and through equal participation of women and men in decision making processes. We firmly believe that the most important precondition for attaining these goals is an enabling environment for women, as daughters, sisters, wives, and mothers, within the family, the basic unit of human development.

We urge the Commission to act on the following:

1. Universal educational opportunities for girls and boys;

2. Literacy programs for adults at all ages;

3. Equal access for men, women, and children to quality physical and mental health care, especially for prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis;

4. Promotion of gender equality for women in the workforce as well as within the family;

5. Partnership of women and men in decision making within the family and the community;

6. Equal rights for women with regard to marriage, divorce, and property.

We state our trust in the Commission on the Status of Women to work strenuously towards the accomplishment of these goals.